

### REMARKS

Claims 4-51 were previously canceled. New claims 84 and 85 have been added. Claims 1-3 and 52-85 are pending in this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications.

Claims 1-3 and 52-83 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brobst et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,061,700) ("Brobst") and further in view of IBM (NNRD 423111) and Miyashita (JP 08255255). The rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 66, and 83 recite "evaluating a degree of significance for each element; [and] adding a result of the evaluation to the tree structure." Claim 82 recites "means for evaluating a degree of significance of each element; [and] means for adding a result of the evaluation to the tree structure." Applicant respectfully submits that neither Brobst, IBM, nor Miyashita, even when combined, disclose, teach, or suggest at least these limitations.

Applicant respectfully submits that Brobst discloses a system for allowing users to print related web pages without accessing the respective web pages. Also, Brobst discloses that related web pages on networks are regarded as a composite unit. In Brobst, the formatting of web pages is implemented by defining a list of URLs and associated relation criteria (nest level) for the selected URLs. (Brobst, FIGs. 3, 4)

IBM relates to a system for converting HTML to well formed XML using a process based on extension of tags. Furthermore, IBM discloses that the tags are associated with preference information, and XML elements representative of preference are generated together with original HTML structures. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Brobst nor IBM, whether considered alone or in combination, disclose,

teach, or suggest evaluating a degree of significance for each element, and adding a result of the evaluation to the tree structure, as recited in claims 1, 66, 82, and 83.

The Office Action admits that Brobst and IBM fail to disclose evaluating a degree of significance for each element, and adding a result of the evaluation to the tree structure. (Office Action at page 5). The Office Action instead relies on Miyashita for disclosing these limitations. Applicant respectfully submits, however, that Miyashita relates to a system for arranging document information including characters, drawings and pictures, etc., within the limited area of a display device so that contents may be easily recognized and displaying the document information. Specifically, the relative importance of each document element of input document information is calculated, and then the size of each document element is calculated. Additionally, each document element is successively arranged on the column of a prescribed rectangular area in order. The lengths of all the elements may then be matched with the lengths of all rectangular areas. Applicant respectfully submits that Miyashita fails to disclose, teach, or suggest evaluating a degree of significance for each element, and adding a result of the evaluation to the tree structure, as recited in claims 1, 66, 82, and 83. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 66, 82, and 83 are allowable over the cited references.

Claims 2, 3 and 52-65 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at the same reasons as discussed above. Claims 67-81 depend from claim 66 and are allowable for at the same reasons as discussed above. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

New claims 84 and 85 contain similar limitations as claims 1, 66, 82, and 83; specifically, they recite "evaluating a degree of significance for each element, and

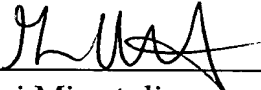
Reply to Office Action of February 27, 2006

adding a result of the evaluation to the tree structure." As such, claims 84 and 85 are allowable over the cited references.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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